14th August 1929]

Court of Wards and Zamindars

Collection of arrears of rent due to the Sivaganga Estate.

* 395 *Q.*—Mr. L. K. Tulasiram :—" Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the authorities of the Sivaganga Estate have converted the varam tenure (produce sharing system) into cash-rent system without reference to the provisions of the Madras Estates Land Act ;

(*b*) what were the arrears due to the said Sivaganga Estate at the beginning of each of the faslis 1336, 1337 and 1338 ;

(*c*) what is the actual number of distraints of movables effected by the Estate Collector in each of the last two faslis 1338 and 1339 up to the end of 30th June 1929 ;

(*d*) what is the number of distraints of crops effected by the Estate Collector in fasli 1339 ;

(*e*) what is the number of criminal prosecutions launched by the estate during fasli 1339 and how many of them were pending on 30th June 1929 ;

(*f*) what is the number of summary suits now pending before the Special Deputy Collector, Manamadura, in which the validity of commutation is directly in issue ;

(*g*) what is the number of village officers that have been suspended by the district authorities in the Ramnad district for the reason that the village officers themselves were in arrears to the estate and under what rule of law these village officers who are in arrears are being suspended ; and

(*h*) whether any representation has been made by the District Collector of Ramnad to the Court of Wards and the Government that a consideration of the question in dispute between the zamin ryots of the Sivaganga Estate and the Court of Wards is desirable and what action has been taken on the said representation ?

A.—(*a*) Commutation by mutual agreement of the parties has been going on since fasli 1331.

		RS.
(*b*) Fasli	1336	7·72 lakhs.
,,	1337	8·96 ,,
,,	1338	13·46 ,,

(*c*) *to* (*g*) The Government have called for a report.

(*h*) Yes. The Government understand that the main points at issue are pending in the courts and the decisions of the courts are awaited.

Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar :—" With reference to the answer to clause (*h*), may I know when the representation was made by the District Collector? Was it before the filing of these suits or after ? "

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. Campbell :—" I am afraid I must ask for notice of the question."